

# SPIRITUS

Spring 2023

The Magazine for University  
of Detroit Mercy





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# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



## DEAR DETROIT MERCY FRIENDS & ALUMNI,

**O**n May 12 and 13 I had the great honor of participating in the commencement exercises for the Class of '23. It was a great day for the University as nearly 1,100 undergraduate, graduate, dental and law students joined the ranks of Detroit Mercy alumni.

It was an inspiring weekend and, as my first commencement as president of Detroit Mercy, one that was very special for me, too. I talked to many of the graduates and their families and I was truly impressed with the stories they told about the sacrifice and strength it took to achieve their dream of walking across the stage to receive their diploma. These students are tomorrow's leaders and I am sure they will represent Detroit Mercy well in whatever they do next. Don't miss the photos later in this edition.

You'll also see coverage of my inauguration as the 26th president of this institution. The honor is something I hold deeply in my heart. Hundreds of people attended the ceremony and the celebrations that followed and I was thrilled with the welcome I received from the entire Detroit Mercy community.

My address on that day spoke of the great potential I see at Detroit Mercy. My goal is to lead this institution from very good

to great. It is something I believe we can do, but we must do it together. Stay tuned as we share these exciting opportunities over the next couple months.

On July 1, I begin my second year as president. I've spent this year learning and listening. I've traveled to meet alumni across this country and I've sat down to meals on campus with our students. I've cheered on our student-athletes and been amazed by research presentations. I've met young people who will start their Mercy and Jesuit education this fall. I am always impressed by the impact this institution has had and continues to have on the lives of so many people.

Yet there is much to do. I am encouraged by the will among so many in this community to share their time and talents and treasure with us, and I ask that you reach out to us as you consider ways you might help move Detroit Mercy into the future.

All the best,

Donald B. Taylor

# SPIRITUS

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Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D., at his inauguration as the 26th president



### DETROIT MERCY MISSION STATEMENT

University of Detroit Mercy, a Catholic University in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions, exists to provide excellent student-centered undergraduate and graduate education in an urban context. A Detroit Mercy education seeks to integrate the intellectual, spiritual, ethical and social development of students.

Visit Detroit Mercy on the web: [udmercy.edu](http://udmercy.edu).

### SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

We at Spiritus would love to hear what you think of this magazine and University of Detroit Mercy.

Share your thoughts with Ron Bernas, editor, at [bernasrj@udmercy.edu](mailto:bernasrj@udmercy.edu) or **Spiritus**, Second Floor, Student Union, 4001 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, MI, 48221-3038.

The Marketing & Communications Department **SPIRITUS** twice a year in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Affairs. You may view an electronic version of the magazine [udmercy.edu/spiritus](http://udmercy.edu/spiritus).



# THIS IS DETROIT MERCY

University of Detroit Mercy is the sum of its stories. Here are a few.  
Read more at [udmercy.edu](https://udmercy.edu) and [sites.udmercy.edu](https://sites.udmercy.edu).



## MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Dozens of students, staff, administrators and faculty joined forces on a brisk morning in early May to clean flower beds and refill them with thousands of flowers. The campus beautification event, known as Flower Day, was revived by President Donald B. Taylor after a break of a few years due to COVID and other factors. All who helped welcomed the opportunity to plant seeds of collaboration with others from around the University.



## HISTORY-MAKING ALUMNA

Michigan's newest Supreme Court Justice Kyra Harris Bolden '14 returned to Detroit Mercy Law in April to give the school's annual Dewitt C. Holbrook Lecture on Social Justice.

Bolden joined the state's highest court on Jan. 1, following an appointment by Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and is the first Black woman to serve in that position.

The history-making appointment brought national attention to the 34-year-old.

In an interview with CNN's Poppy Harlow, Bolden told the story of her great-grandfather, Jesse Lee Bond, who was lynched in Tennessee in 1939 for asking a store owner for a receipt. He was beaten, castrated and thrown into a river. The death was ruled an accidental drowning and no one was held responsible.

"Once I realized that was something that happened in my own family, I just felt the need to be a part of the justice system and to go to law school and find my way," she said in the interview.

After graduating, Bolden was a civil litigator in Detroit and worked as a staff attorney for the 3rd Circuit Court of Wayne County and a court-appointed criminal defense attorney in Southfield. She was elected to two terms in the Michigan House in 2018 and served on the Judiciary Committee, where she helped shepherd two criminal law reform bills into law. She also was noted for having the highest number of bills passed by any freshman representative in 2019.

*By Ron Bernas*

## STUDENTS JOIN FORCES TO HELP PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

"Faces on Design" is a two-semester course that teams students from separate disciplines the opportunity to combine their talents to try to improve the quality of life for people with physical disabilities.

Groups consisting of seniors from the College of Engineering & Science and higher-level students from the McAuley School of Nursing collaborate with a particular client for a full academic year and work to identify an obstacle they can help the client overcome by creating a custom assistive device.



The second half of the course involves bringing these devices to life through the construction of a prototype. The prototypes undergo testing and modifications based on client input and student expertise to ensure each device fits the client's specific needs and is safe to use.

"This program takes everything we've learned throughout our time at Detroit Mercy and culminates it for good," said Justin Petouhoff, a senior Mechanical Engineering student who graduated in May. "Not only will this device represent all the skills that we've learned, but it will be something that all of us can be proud of. This is really an opportunity to grow not only as an engineer and a student but also as a person."

One team created a wheelchair storage device to allow Hope, who was born with spina bifida, to store and independently access items she needs. A second team designed a custom shower chair so Pete, who has multiple sclerosis, can safely get in and out of the tub. A third squad designed a device for Scott, who sustained a spinal cord injury after an accident, to transition from his wheelchair to his RV bed while camping.

"I thought it was an incredible experience," Hope said.

*By Vicki Taylor*

## SCORING IS HIS BUSINESS



Over the past 20 years, Desmond Ferguson '00 has helped sports teams throughout the United States and abroad stand out by making custom uniforms through his company, Moneyball Sportswear.

Moneyball Sportswear started as a hobby for Ferguson early in his professional basketball career. Over the years, the Lansing-based company – named for Ferguson's nickname "Moneyball" – has grown into a full-fledged life-after-basketball venture.

"These kids and coaches, they want to look good while they're playing, and they want to be different," Ferguson said. "They love the designs that we're able to create for them. We work to create something that's unique and just for them, so no one else in the country looks like them."

Ferguson, who earned a degree in Accounting from University of Detroit Mercy, starred for the Titan men's basketball team for three years after

transferring from University of Missouri.

"Probably one of the best moves in my life was when I left Missouri and went to Detroit Mercy," Ferguson said. "Not only the success that we had, but just what it did from a relationship standpoint, and fast-forward to my business standpoint as well."

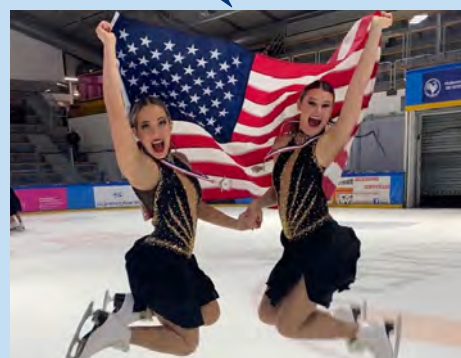
Moneyball Sportswear has locations in Lansing and Southfield. The company opened its new \$1-million headquarters and store on Lansing's west side in May after demolishing and renovating a 5,000-square-foot former warehouse.

Ferguson hopes to see continued growth in Moneyball Sportswear's future.

"We're really looking to build and grow with more athletic directors, where we can be a one-stop shop for all the schools and universities that we deal with," he said. "We have two sides of the business, and we want to grow them both."

*By Ricky Lindsay*

## OVERHEARD



"There's no offseason for skating. It's usually in the winter, but summertime is always conditioning time."

Catherine Cole '23, Civil Engineering graduate who was part of the Crystallettes synchronized skating team that represented the United States in world competitions in France and Austria this year. Shown at right in the photo, Cole hopes one day to see synchronized skating in the Olympics.



## TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PGA ROCKET MORTGAGE CLASSIC

Professional golf returns to Detroit this summer for the PGA Tour's Rocket Mortgage Classic, held June 27 through July 2 at the Detroit Golf Club.

University of Detroit Mercy is offering Titans and the community several ticketing options for the tournament, including a pair of exclusive experiences.

General admission tickets range from \$60-80. Enjoy the tournament with endless food and beverages from the comfort of a private suite next to the green of hole No. 15, or walk alongside a group of PGA Tour players for their full round of 18 holes with the Honorary Observer experience.

Suite and Honorary Observer tickets are only \$500, and a portion of the price is a tax-deductible gift to Detroit Mercy Student Scholarships. The Honorary Observer experience does not include private suite access.

Since 2019, UDM's partnership with the Rocket Mortgage Classic has helped raise more than \$45,000 for the University's endowed scholarship fund.

This year's field includes two-time major winner Collin Morikawa, previous tournament champions Tony Finau, Cam Davis and Nate Lashley, and fan-favorite Rickie Fowler, with other golfers yet to commit.

Learn more and purchase tickets by calling **313-993-1540**.



## EMERGING SCHOLAR

Assistant Professor of Psychology Miao Qian was featured on the cover of *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education's* Jan. 19 issue as one of the publication's 2023 emerging scholars. "I am very interested in the developmental roots for a lot of our social problems, such as race bias or gender inequality," Qian told

*Diverse*. "When do our thoughts and beliefs around certain race groups or gender groups develop and why do we have stereotypical thinking about people who are different from us?"



## STILL HEALING

Since 2020, Healing Wall, Panel 5, has been displayed around the McNichols Campus. In April, it found a permanent home in the Briggs Building, and was installed in a display case built designed by the School of Architecture & Community Development, during a ceremony attended by members of the University community.

The panel is a brightly colored collection of ribbons surrounding the images of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, three Black Americans whose deaths by violence in 2020 sparked worldwide demonstrations against racism. The interactive art piece asked members of the Detroit Mercy community to write the names of people killed or brutalized because of their race onto the ribbons, which artist Carole Morisseau then attached to the work.

## OVERHEARD



**"It's part of a longer process to create more diversity in architecture."**

Michael Ford '06, speaking of the international program he created called The Hip-Hop Architecture Camp. Ford uses music, which campers write, record and make videos of, to discuss architecture, urban design and planning. The camp sparks an interest, he said, and also provides resources for those who sustain interest and plan to study it in college.

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To read full versions of these stories and more, visit [sites.udmercy.edu/alumni](https://sites.udmercy.edu/alumni) and [udmercy.edu](https://udmercy.edu).

# LAW STUDENT CAPTURES SPACE THROUGH ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY

By Ricky Lindsay

Photo by Janson Fu



When Janson Fu isn't handling all the responsibilities that come with being a law student, he has his eyes on the stars.

A second-year student in Detroit Mercy Law's dual JD program, Fu enjoys astrophotography, which involves photographing the night sky and celestial events.

"I was always interested with anything to do with space," said Fu, whose undergraduate degree is in Astronomy and Physics. That program exposed him to various hardware and equipment, like telescopes and imaging software.

Astrophotography is a time intensive hobby — it takes several days for Fu to shoot and process images to produce a final product — but the COVID pandemic allowed him the time to explore it. He's been doing astrophotography for more than two years.

Fu's process starts with determining what he wants to capture. The website [telescopus.com](https://telescopus.com) lets him frame targets while factoring in cloudiness and light

pollution in the area. When it's a clear, dark night, with no moon or clouds in the sky, Fu can get to work.

Once outside, Fu lines up his camera rig with the north celestial pole, Polaris, as it's where the sky rotates at night. An equatorial mount prevents star trails by moving his rig with the Earth's rotation and software ensures the image is properly framed so that clear photos are produced. After taking many long exposure shots with filters to capture faint details and different colors, Fu can process and combine them into a full color image.

"With astrophotography, it's really about finding the perfect way to configure your setup with what you need, so that part is fun, and I mess around with my cameras and filters a lot," he said. "I like seeing the hard work I put into something pay off in the end. The hours it takes to plan, shoot and process, and then I finally get something I'm happy with, it brings me a level of joy that is hard to describe."

Fu showcases his astrophotography work on Instagram, [@astrojanson](https://www.instagram.com/astrojanson), which he says acts like a journal to show his progression.

"You can notice in the beginning that the images were cool, but they were a

little blurry and buzzy," he said. "As I've spent more time refining my skills and processing and image acquisition, my details have gotten a lot better."

Fu is dedicated to his law studies and extracurriculars, but manages to balance it with his hobby.

"The nice thing is that astrophotography happens at night, while all my coursework and everything happens in the day, so it doesn't overlap," he said. "I can get all of my work done and everything I need to do and still set up for my astrophotography shots at night, which is really nice."

Despite astrophotography being a hobby, Fu takes pride in the images he produces and has high goals for the future.

"To win a NASA Astronomy Picture of the Day award or multiple, that's something that I'm working towards," Fu said. "I'm imaging Nebula right now because that's something I'm doing with my equipment. To image galaxies that are very high detail, you need very specialized and expensive equipment. That'll be something I want to work towards in the end."



# SOFT-SPOKEN DAVIS LEFT A BIG MARK IN COLLEGE BASKETBALL

By P.J. Gradowski



You could hear a pin drop when he was around. Even when shooting around Calihan Hall, the only noise was a ball going through the net. Antoine Davis would hardly speak.

Yet when it came to college basketball, only one person left a louder sound when it came to scoring.

"I am just so blessed for everything that happened," said Davis. "I really can't put it in a lot of words other than being blessed and I take nothing for granted."

That is the legacy of Davis, a soft-spoken kid who was not gifted with the speed of Allen Iverson or the size of LeBron James. He was never the biggest guard nor the strongest. Never would someone look at him and say that he is a future All-American, a future NCAA record holder or a future player of the year.

Yet Davis did all that during his time at Detroit Mercy. He earned Associated Press Honorable Mention All-American twice and was named a Third Team All-American by the U.S. Basketball Writers Association, just the second Titan in school history to be named by that organization. He was a two-time Horizon League Player of the Year, a five-time First-Team All-Horizon League selection and a finalist for just about every major college basketball award.

"He worked so hard to get to this point," said Mike Davis, head coach and his father. "All the shots he put up and continues to put up. All the practices, two or three a day. I think a lot of people would come to games and see him shoot early, even see him shoot some after the games, but I don't think people will ever know the hard work he has put in."

Davis didn't just grow into the role of the second all-time scorer in NCAA history, he thrust himself right into the forefront in his first college basketball game.

On Nov. 6, 2018, the 6-foot-1, 150-pound Davis scored 32 points at Western Michigan, the most points ever by a Titan true freshman in his debut game. He then became the first freshman in school history to post back-to-back 30-point games, en route to recording eight-straight 20-point games. Five of those games were 30-point performances and included a Titan freshman record 42 in his fourth contest against Loyola Maryland.

Davis later increased that freshman mark to 48 points against Wright State, marking the second most points in school history and one away from the



school record.

"He had a chance to go for the record and he passed the ball a few times late in the game," said Mike Davis. "That shows you what kind of player he is. He really did that his whole career and when he came so close to the record, you see the choices he made for his teammates to give up the ball."

When it was all said and done, Davis left the University holding four NCAA records in total 3-pointers (588), 3-pointers by a freshman (132), consecutive games in double figures (144) and total games in double figures (144). He scored 3,664 career points, second in NCAA history and three away from Pete Maravich's record 3,667.

Davis' 1,219 field goals are sixth all-time in the NCAA record book. He is also just the second player in NCAA history to amass 3,000 points and 500 assists and the only player to record 3,500 points and 550 assists.

As a senior, he led the nation in a number of categories, including scoring (28.2 ppg.), total points (930), total 3-pointers (159), 3-pointers per game (4.82) and total field goals (303). His 159 3-pointers were second in NCAA history and three away from tying the single-season mark of 162 by Stephen Curry in 2007-08. Prior to the season, the only Titan to ever lead the nation in an NCAA statistic was Spencer

Haywood, who averaged 22.1 rebounds in 1968-69.

"The only equalizer for size is a shot. If you can make shots, no matter how big or little you are, you will find your way onto the court, and there's not too many people who can shoot like him," former NBA coach John Lucas, who trained Davis growing up in Houston, said to the Associated Press.

"It was amazing to watch him practice and play," said former teammate Willy Isiani. "Such a great player and a great teammate. I miss playing with him."

Detroit Mercy has produced some outstanding stars in its rich history. Haywood won an Olympic gold medal and Dave DeBusschere was named one of the 50 greatest players in NBA history. DeBusschere and

Haywood, along with Terry Duerod, Earl Cureton and John Long, won NBA championships. Willie Green the head coach of the New Orleans Pelicans.

But when people look at the all-time scoring leaders in NCAA history, right behind Pistol Pete Maravich, there is a small guard who had a quiet voice but had a deafening shot, a Titan who cemented his place in college basketball lore.







## TITANS ADD SPORTS LEGENDS TO ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

University of Detroit Mercy inducted its 2023 Hall of Fame class in February. Joining the Titan legends were: 1928 U-D Football Team, Tim Blackwell (men's soccer, 1993-96), Aaron Byrd (men's soccer, 1999-02), Paul Caraballo (men's track & field, 1995-98), Ruthie (Cook) Thill (women's track & field/cross country, 1998-2002), Allison (Epple) Hodgins (women's

soccer, 2002-05), Jordan Houtby (men's lacrosse, 2010-13), Monica Kaltreider (women's soccer, 1995-98), Lindsey Lammers (women's golf, 2010-14), Autumn Rademacher (women's basketball, 1993-97), Ryan Raymond (baseball, 1988-91), Lawrence Scheffer (baseball, 1992-95) and Katy (James) Snyder (women's fencing, 1986-89).



## SHERMAN TAKES SILVER AT LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Allison Sherman claimed second place at the 2022 Horizon League Cross Country Championship. She earned First Team All-Horizon League honors for her efforts at the OU Cross Country course, as her time of 21:55.4 was good for 10th all-time in Titans history for the 6K. She then broke her 6K mark by running 21:54 at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Championships.

## CHANG IS NEW TITAN RECORD HOLDER



Golfer Ariel Chang ended her sophomore year with First Team All-Horizon League honors as well as a school record, breaking the single-season scoring average with a 76.05. Nineteen of her 20 rounds were carded in the 70s, with two at par or better. She started all nine events and recorded six top-10 finishes, including tying for sixth at the Horizon League Championships with a 229 (78-76-75), just one shot outside of All-Tournament honors.



## MEN'S 4x100 DEFENDS TITLE WITH NEW SCHOOL RECORD

The Titan 4x100-meter relay team of Evan Eding, Elijah Major, Dante Bassham and Antonio Talley took home the gold at the Horizon League Outdoor Championships with a school record of 41.00 seconds. Detroit Mercy placed fourth overall at the conference meet as a team.

## TITANS RANK HIGH IN LATEST NCAA ACADEMIC REPORT

Detroit Mercy saw every one of its programs post multi-year scores greater than the 930 NCAA qualifying mark in the latest Academic Progress Rate report. Eight programs tied or exceeded the national standard of 984 with five recording perfect scores for the current period, which consists of the 2019-20 to 2022-23 academic years.

The men's and women's cross country teams, men's and women's golf and women's lacrosse each registered perfect 1,000 scores, while men's lacrosse (991) and women's soccer (988) were above the national average. Men's fencing (984) tied the 984 benchmark.





# A New Era

*Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D., is inaugurated as the 26th president of Detroit Mercy*



By Ron Bernas

More than 500 people from across the country came to the McNichols Campus to celebrate the March 24 inauguration of Donald B. Taylor as the 26th president of Detroit Mercy.

Students, staff, administration and faculty attended a Mass at Gesu Church, the inauguration ceremony at Calihan Hall and receptions at the Student Union and Student Fitness Center that followed.

"It was a great day for the University," said Vice President for University Advancement Arnold D'Ambrosio '17.

In his inauguration address, Taylor addressed what he has learned about Detroit Mercy since taking office in July 2022.

"I've served at larger universities, and I've served at smaller ones," he said. "Detroit Mercy is at that sweet spot. We have big-school amenities, but students feel like a part of a tight-knit community that values them. It is a place where everyone can make a big difference."

During his inauguration address, Taylor called on the Detroit Mercy community to share their ideas on what the University can be.

For his part, Taylor said his vision "is for Detroit Mercy to be the premier entrepreneurial, innovative community-engaged Catholic university in the Midwest. We must serve as a model for what the post-pandemic university can be."



Top: Donald B. Taylor. Center, Members of the University of Detroit Mercy Board of Trustees, at the investiture ceremony, left, and IT Specialist Ranard Bynum at the Mass, right. The University Chorus provided the music for the Mass, bottom. At right, Taylor with his wife Lechia.







“As an independent Catholic university in today’s world, we face challenges, but I’m incredibly excited because we have so many more opportunities than challenges.”



President Taylor shakes hands with Chariman of the Board, Michael T. McNamara.

His goal for the University is to play to its strengths, one of which is healthcare programming. From his perspective, Detroit Mercy can help fill the extreme staffing shortages in the healthcare industry with educational and institutional partnerships throughout southeast Michigan.

Taylor also said UDM’s unique Jesuit and Mercy education can help address long-standing systemic racial inequities and social injustices.

“Institutions like ours must continue to provide that well-rounded education and career pathways for students of all skill levels, backgrounds, means and experiences,” he said.

To do this, the University must also be willing to find non-traditional students in places other universities don’t look.

“We are committed to meeting people where they are,” he said. “To go to the



## THE GIFT *of* SONG

The University presented three gifts to Donald B. Taylor at his inauguration.

One, from the Sisters of Mercy and the Jesuits, was a tree to be planted on the McNichols Campus. A second, from the University, is outdoor furniture for the Overhang, a unique space where students and employees can gather rain or shine, created by the renovation of the Student Union.

Most unique, though, was a gospel-inspired song written for the event by Senior Adjunct Instructor Daniel Greig, who also conducts the University Chorus and is music director for special campus liturgies.

Greig conducted the premiere performance at the inauguration ceremony to great applause. The words are reprinted here.

### *To Walk with You*

*Give me ears that listen closely  
and eyes of faith to see.  
Give me hands that serve with mercy  
to comfort those in need.  
Give me a heart for justice  
and courage, I pray  
to lead, to serve,  
to walk with you all of my days.*

*Holy wisdom, be my counselor.  
Guide me in the work I'm called to do.  
Give me the gift of right judgement  
that I may know your will and always follow you.*

*God, in your compassion, teach my heart to seek  
to find your presence around and in all things.  
Strengthen me, please give me what I need.  
Grant to me peace, that passes all understanding.*

local high schools, the community centers, the block clubs and other places to connect directly with Detroit residents and show them the career pathways we offer. When you meet people where they are, when you show them a path forward and how to access it, you create hope.”

Taylor understands the importance and value of hope. His father had an eighth-grade education and wanted to be sure Taylor and his siblings had opportunities. Those opportunities came in the form of libraries and librarians, where he spent most Saturdays from the time he was 5-years-old until he was 12. Taylor’s father had to work, and his mother was ill; the library opened a new world to him.

“Together, let’s build the environment where students from lower socioeconomic standing can become the first of their



#### ABOVE

The University Chorus sang the premiere performance of “To Walk with You” at the inauguration. Below, members and former members of the Board of Trustees and University administrators parade to the investiture ceremony.

#### ON THE LEFT

Daniel Greig presents Taylor with a framed copy of the lyrics of his original song “To Walk with You.”





# “Entrepreneurs, like scientists, solve problems ... so do **Titans**.”

families to attend and graduate college,” he said. “That’s going to take a commitment of this entire institution from executive leadership to alumni to students and faculty.”

One way he hopes to accomplish this goal is to create an effort he calls the Titan Guarantee, a promise that every four-year student who attends Detroit Mercy will receive a high-impact, experiential education component before they graduate.

He is also working diligently to raise the level of UDM’s voice at all levels of government to help make decisions impacting higher education. These and other initiatives are what can take Detroit Mercy from “good” to “great.”

“Detroit Mercy has everything it needs to take that quantum leap and we all have a role to play,” he said.

To help in this effort, he has also asked alumni to champion the school and faculty to bring innovative educational programming. He asked students to use their Detroit Mercy education to solve the big problems in the world.

“The world needs Titans more than ever and working shoulder to shoulder with everyone will help get UDM to the next level,” he concluded.

## **WANTED:** *Innovators*

In his inauguration address, President Donald B. Taylor announced a new program to bring next generation thinking to the University.

Taylor used gifts from generous donors to launch the Titan Innovation Fund, which will distribute awards that promote out-of-the-box thinking and encourage faculty, staff, administrators and students to test ideas that will improve student experience, educational strategies and institutional systems at Detroit Mercy.

Such funds have proven to be a successful catalyst of innovation and change at campuses around the country.

For example: At a previous institution, there was a gap in the retention and graduation rate of male students of color.

After identifying this issue, a group of faculty and staff instituted living and learning communities for men of color to give these students increased social and academic support. Almost immediately, the trends were reversed.

The Titan Innovation Fund will provide seed money to allow for innovative thinking, pilot projects, partnerships and new programs that will benefit the students and the University as a whole.

Proposals are being accepted, and the first round of grants is expected in October.

For more information, visit [udmercy.edu/academics/academic-affairs/titan-innovation/](https://udmercy.edu/academics/academic-affairs/titan-innovation/)



### **ON THE LEFT**

*Student members of The Music Club performed jazz at the inaugural reception.*

### **BELOW**

*Taylor, who urges people to call him DT, with students before his investiture ceremony.*









# CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2023!

The world welcomed more than 1,000 Titans following the May 12 and 13 Commencement Exercises on the McNichols Campus.

Undergraduate, graduate, Dental and Law students and their families celebrated the accomplishment, but there was much more going on this Commencement season than just the conferring of degrees.

Detroit Mercy Dental had a hooding for Dental students and a pinning for Dental Hygienist graduates. Nursing programs also held pinning and hooding ceremonies. There was a baccalaureate Mass at the St. Ignatius Chapel and, for the first time, a Multicultural Graduation Ceremony to honor the achievements of graduates from historically underrepresented groups.

Graduates also took advantage of a rule change banning decorations on their mortarboards to show their creativity and share some inspiration.

Ford B. Cauffiel Sr., who attended University of Detroit but left before he graduated to build what would become a 70-year career in manufacturing around the world, received an honorary doctorate. As speaker, JoAnn Chávez, senior vice president and chief legal officer of DTE Energy inspired the graduates.

Many speakers offered life advice during the ceremonies and President Donald B. Taylor added his own. Quoting the immortal Mr. Spock: "Live long and prosper."





# OFF THE TOPS OF THEIR HEADS

Class of 2023 was the first allowed to decorate their cap. Here's what they said:











# STAR CENTER DESIGNED TO CREATE HEALTHCARE STARS

*By Ron Bernas*

Tucked away on the north wing of the second floor of the Health Professions Facility is what looks like a working hospital.

Wide hallways and doors accommodate moving beds from room to room. Large windows replicate an intensive care unit and medical surgical suite. Machines beep vital signs. Patients are treated for trauma while others give birth. And all of it is done under the watchful eyes

of simulation and clinical faculty in the control room.

This is the College of Health Profession's new Simulation, Technology and Research (STAR) Center, and it is the future of healthcare education.

"We have done simulation for years, but this is simulation through a different lens," said Nina Favor, assistant dean of Prelicensure Clinical Partnerships. This center broadens it and uses the

discipline according to the International Nursing Association for Clinical and Simulation Learning standards."

The Center is designed to promote student-faculty collaboration in one space, enhance flexibility of the curriculum and the scenarios help students understand the benefits of different ways of treating patients.

More than three years in the making, the STAR Center will redefine the CHP's



interprofessional environment. Every program that falls under the CHP, from Physician Assistant to bachelor of Nursing, will benefit, Favor said. The Center will be able to connect with Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, where Detroit Mercy runs a Nursing program, and the new Novi Campus, where the Master's Entry Advanced Generalist Nursing (MEAGN) program is offered.

"I'm really excited about this," Favor said. "We could have one patient and be teaching students on three campuses."

That is beneficial to students on the three campuses who need training on serving rural, hearing impaired, aging, youth and other populations that have unique needs.

It can also be used to expand some of the dual enrollment programs the CHP currently does with middle and high school students. It will also be an asset for recruitment and retention of CHP students.

"And it serves our mission too, because it can be used to improve and increase our healthcare outreach to the community," said Interim Dean Janet Baiardi.

It will also be vital in creating a better prepared workforce, which is badly needed.

"Nursing as a profession is an aging profession," Baiardi said.

Research shows huge percentages of the current workforce is looking to leave the profession. A big reason for that is burnout.

"Simulation training will better prepare students for the jobs that are out there," she added. "By being better prepared, they will know how to handle situations in the workforce before they have to confront them in real time. That can help prevent burnout."

Erika Moreno '23 earned her bachelor of science degree in Nursing just as the STAR Center was being brought online, but she sees the potential of it.

"I think it's a good opportunity for UDM students to explore the real world without fear of doing anything wrong and harming the patient," Moreno said.

A non-traditional student, Moreno left a previous career in human resources for her Nursing degree and is now working in the cardiovascular operating room at University of Michigan Hospital.

She said simulation work begins with a case study where students are given details about the mannequin patients.

"That starts our critical thinking and we work in teams, and I remember to ask the patient one thing and my team







member remembers to ask something else, so we're tag-teaming and learning from each other and the situation," Moreno said. "Healthcare is new to me, so the simulation experience is helpful. It gave me that nursing experience before I had to do it in real life."

The former simulation center was too cramped and outdated and didn't allow for easy simulcasting to other campuses. This new center will use artificial intelligence tools to increase the learning experience. Virtual-reality mannequins will have artificial intelligence and be able to answer questions from students. They will have vital signs and one will be able to simulate having a baby.

Cameras and one-way mirrors will allow instructors to watch as students learn everything from bedside manner to labor and delivery. Collaborative spaces for active learning are also included in the renovations that created the Center.

"This is the future of healthcare education," Favor said. "It's great for Detroit Mercy and our students."

*Much of the cost of the Center has been paid for by donors, but opportunities still remain to fund parts of it. To help support the STAR Center, contact Kristine Hoover, director of Development for the CHP, at [hooverka@udmercy.edu](mailto:hooverka@udmercy.edu).*





# LEADERSHIP MINOR

is a MAJOR ATTRACTION

*Students, alumni in all fields say it helps them succeed*

By Adam Bouton



Detroit Mercy's largest minor is leading the way.

For more than a decade, the Leadership minor has been an important part of the college education of hundreds of Detroit Mercy graduates.

Currently, more than 500 students are enrolled in the minor each semester, from every background, discipline and college. It has become part of the fabric of the University, helping send future leaders in different majors and career tracks into the world.

"Our hope was to find a way to partner with every major in a way that really augments their learning," said Don DiPaolo, director of the Leadership minor

since its inception in late 2011. "Can leadership be paired with every major at the University and every career in the real world? That's exactly what we did."

DiPaolo, who earned a doctorate in Leadership and Education Studies from the University of Michigan, has worked with student leadership nationally and internationally and saw a need for leadership training, specifically in the Midwest and Michigan. He received help from administration, deans, faculty and others at UDM to start the program from the ground up.

"Every other weekend I was in another place in the country helping students develop leadership skills," he said. "Why not at my own University? It was clear

that the need was there. The business world and research were making it clear that it was needed and wanted."

It's also a perfect fit at a place like UDM, where "to lead and serve" is front and center in the vision statement of the University.

"We've tried to make the courses very student-centered and engaging," DiPaolo said. "You can't believe the feedback we get from people hiring our students in organizations or admitting them for postgraduate work."

"These students in the program help lead the campus and are on their way to leading our country — and doing so with integrity and purpose."



The minor is 18 credits and all undergraduate students are eligible to add it to their major. It consists of four content areas: Individual Leadership Skills, Group Skills, Organizational Management and Human Relations Skills and Community Engagement Skills. The minor opens with an introductory course and concludes with a capstone course that provides opportunities for students to teach leadership skills in the community, such as in local schools.

Each student also compiles an electronic leadership portfolio featuring the work they've done to earn the minor.

"Leadership minor students often successfully present these at internship, post-graduate and job interviews — setting them apart from their peers," said DiPaolo.

The success stories from the minor are endless.

As an undergraduate student at UDM, Suzie Dahma '20 kept hearing rave reviews about the Leadership minor. Her interest, however, extended beyond the program.

"I was interested in learning about myself and how to better my relationships with others personally and professionally," Dahma said. "Students spoke highly about how well Dr. Don taught the class and the amount of helpful information they learned."

One of Dahma's favorite aspects of



DiPaolo's classes were discussing different scenarios. She said it allowed students to understand other's points of view. Now a travel nurse, Dahma uses these skills daily.

"This class taught students, including myself, that taking the time to hear

other's reasonings may change the way you handle or react to something," she said.

"In the nursing field, we deal with many individuals — patients, visitors, co-workers. I've encountered many difficult conversations and personalities in my career. Taking Leadership has better equipped me to deal with those conversations and people."

Delaney Alward '22 stumbled upon the minor almost by accident, taking a class out of curiosity. She is grateful she did. Alward eventually became a teaching assistant for the Introduction to Leadership classes and saw the positive

transformation of students.

"My favorite aspect of the program was the genuine, personal growth that students go through in their time in the minor," Alward said. "I learned the most about myself, those around me and what I wanted to do career-wise because of this minor."

"It was so

rewarding to watch students progress over the semester — interacting with other students, participating in class discussions, laughing, crying and actually being authentic in the classroom.

"The leadership minor creates an environment that is centered on student

## STUDENTS IN THE LEADERSHIP MINOR BY COLLEGE

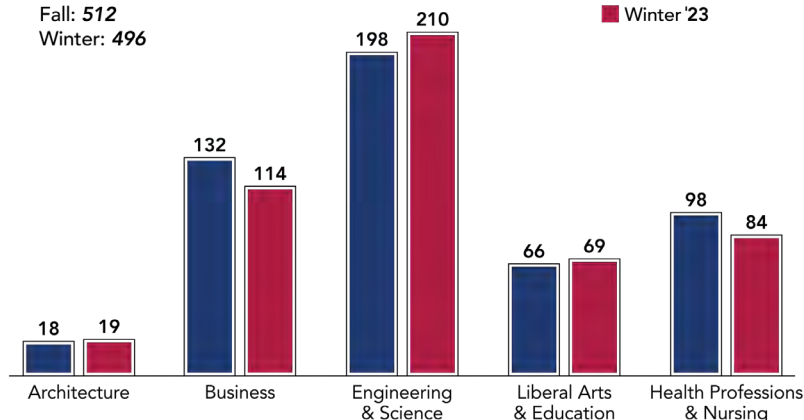
TOTAL

Fall: 512

Winter: 496

Fall '22

Winter '23



well-being and growth, which facilitates room for students to learn, change and excel over the course of their undergraduate experience at Detroit Mercy."

Current student Kirsten Richey is one of those who excelled in the program.

Richey wasn't necessarily looking forward to taking DiPaolo's Introduction to Leadership class when she enrolled two years into her UDM career. But those sentiments quickly subsided when she immersed herself into it.

"(DiPaolo) made the class so enjoyable and fun and he opened so many windows and different perspectives," said Richey, who is majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. "It's helped me meet so many different types of people and I'm participating so much more in on-campus activities. It's really made me enjoy my experience so much more."

"I came in here with kind of lower confidence and I didn't see myself as a leader at all. But after this class and now that I'm in the Leadership capstone class, as well, I've just learned so much about myself and I feel way more confident in my abilities and myself to lead others."

Not only has the program showcased student personal and professional growth, but it has helped to link classmates and create community at Detroit Mercy.

"It was a great way to connect with myself and meet many other students from different majors and grade levels," said Matt Turner '20, '21, who earned two degrees from the University, in addition to his Leadership minor. "Our campus



is small, so it helped drive the ‘family’ aspect as well as enhance my leadership capabilities.”

“Because leadership is such a relationship-based practice, the in-class environment is so collaborative and supportive and it’s a great way to foster learning and greater understanding and honestly, it’s just a lot of fun,” added Cole Luken ‘23, a recent Political Science graduate who is preparing for law school. “You build better connections with your classmates than you do in any other class.”

The Leadership minor draws students from all colleges on the McNichols Campus, with the College of Engineering & Science leading the way with 210 total students enrolled in the minor during the winter 2023 semester.

“One of my favorite things about the minor is that it gives student leaders the chance to cross pollinate,” said DiPaolo. “They are all in the same class with kids from different majors who may have very different views of their own life trajectory.

“It makes people feel much more

connected to the University, much more loyal to this place because they belong to each other, and they have a purpose.”

Turner, who works on an HR team for a global manufacturing company and also coaches high school lacrosse in Detroit, knows just how major of an impact the Leadership minor had on his Detroit Mercy education.

“It is applied every single day,” he said. “You leave the program with an enlightened ability to understand your own thoughts and actions. The truth is that leaders are out there every day, whether it’s helping someone cross the street or leading an entire organization.”

Alward, who earned a Psychology degree from UDM and is currently pursuing a

master’s degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, may have been unaware of what the Leadership minor had to offer when she enrolled, but knows that it’s anything but minor.

“In everything from job interviews, working and interacting with peers, co-workers and faculty, to my interpersonal relationships with family and friends — the benefits of obtaining a Leadership minor at Detroit Mercy permeate all areas of my life,” she said.

“It was the best choice I have ever made in terms of my academic and professional career.”





# CLASS NOTES

Have you recently been promoted, honored or published? Have you switched employers or career paths? Share the news with fellow Detroit Mercy alumni, parents, friends, faculty and staff.

Send your Class Notes to [alumni@udmercy.edu](mailto:alumni@udmercy.edu).

## 1950s

**The Hon. William J. Giovan '58** has been appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to serve as a visiting judge in Wayne County Circuit Court's criminal division.

## 1960s

**Thomas V. Larabell '63** and his wife Yvonne were the 2022 recipients of the Theresa Maxis Award from the IHM Order for their charity work.

## 1970s

**Lizabeth Ardisana '78** has been appointed to the board of directors of Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc. She is CEO and principal owner of ASG Renaissance LLC.

**Pamela (Fanning) Carter '71** has been named chair of the board of Enbridge Inc., where she has served since 2007. She is also on the board of directors of Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company and Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. and has served as a director of the railway company CSX Corp.

**Probir K. Guha '75** was given the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Automotive Division of the Society of Plastics Engineers. Over a 50-year career, he led key innovations in the field and held more than 179 patents.

## 1980s

**Hon. Nicole S. Goodson '94, '97** has been appointed to the Third Circuit Court of Wayne County by Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

**Emmanuel D. Kollias '89** has joined the Southgate, Mich., office of Wightman, a consulting firm offering architecture, civil engineering and surveying services.

**Manu Ohri '80** has joined the board of directors of Shengda Network Technology, Inc. He previously provided management consulting and business advisory services through Anarjay Concepts, Inc.

**Nancy Susick '86** has been named chief operating officer for acute and post-acute services at Beaumont Health. She was previously president of Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak.

**Mark L. Teicher '82** has been named to the West Bloomfield, Mich., Environmental Commission.

**Jim Wood '86, '92**, a licensed psychologist, joined Moody Theological Seminary as associate professor of counseling psychology at the Plymouth, Mich. campus.

## 1990s

**Brandon M. Berkowski '98** has been named special litigation counsel for the law firm Fullerton Beck LLP in White Plains, N.Y. He was previously senior counsel.

**Stephen Bieda '92** was appointed by Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to the 37th District Court. He is the chair of the Michigan Tax Tribunal where he has been an administrative court judge since 2019.

**Charles F. Bridges '92**, a senior manager at FedEx Ground, earned the company's Innovator of the Year Award for 2022.

**Thomas G. Dunne '91**, has been named dean of students for Harvard College. He previously served as deputy dean of students at Princeton University.

**Shelly (Lee) Griffin '93** has joined the insurance coverage practice group of Plunkett Cooney in Bloomfield Hills.

**David C. Moore '96** was named executive vice president and chief operating officer, North America of Americold Realty Trust, Inc.

**John W. Mulcrone '95** was appointed general counsel of the Michigan House of Representatives. He had previously served as the Michigan Senate chief of staff.

**Derk F. Pronger '94** has been named president of Corewell Health East's new president of its Farmington Hills Hospital.

**Jon V. Rogers II '96** was named executive vice president and a member of the management and investment committees at

New York-based Freedom Capital Markets.

## 2000s

**Abed A. Ayoub '05** was appointed national executive director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

**Carl E. Pate Jr. '09** was named chief compliance officer of Physician Partners of America, headquartered in Tampa, Fla.

DTE Energy named **Khalid Rahal '09** to be its director of economic development, leading DTE's efforts to drive economic development in communities across Michigan.

**Joseph G. Ursuy '01** has been named executive vice president of national business for energy, renewables and waste for Comerica, Inc. He will work out of the company's Detroit office.

## 2010s

Detroit-based law firm Butzel announced attorney **Ashley Aldea '15** is now a partner. She concentrates her practice in the area of commercial real estate.

**Daniel G. Bonucchi '13** has been named a partner at Warner Norcross + Judd and will be working out of the firm's Macomb County, Mich., office.

**Bethany J. Howard '19, '21** has been named project manager at City Walls in Detroit. The program is designed to highlight the values and identity of the communities and empower Detroit artists and provide a benefit to the public by turning blight into art.

**Aaron W. Jackson '17** has joined the Fair Food Network as program director of Michigan Good Food Fund. He will work to expand partnerships with Michigan communities, partners and lenders to open economic opportunities for food entrepreneurs.

Cleveland, Ohio,-based law firm Gallagher Sharp LLP has named **Nancy M. Kama '19** as an associate in the firm's general litigation and transportation practice groups.



**Joshua G. Latzman '13** has joined the Houston, Texas office of Lightfoot, Franklin & White LLC in product liability, catastrophic injury and personal injury matters.

**Ross M. Rademaker '19** has joined Nippon Seiki North America in Troy, Mich., as an ERP systems administrator.

**Blaine A. Veldhuis '14** has joined the Troy, Mich., office of Butzel in the law firm's labor and employment practice group.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has appointed **Stefen J. Welch '11** to the Oakland University Board of Trustees. He is

the vice president of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the Detroit Pistons.

**Jeffrey M. Wiggins '11** has been named press secretary and senior advisor for Michigan's Senate Republican caucus.

## 2020s

**Anthony Cimini '22** has joined the Bloomfield Hills, Mich., law firm of Strobl Sharp where he will focus his practice on business bankruptcy and reorganization, tax law and general litigation.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has appointed **Sahar Farhat '20** to the Michigan Board of Dentistry. The board

was formed to regulate the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene, authorize dental assistants and certify specialists. She is a dental assistant and senior hygienist for Parkwest Dental.

**Nichole A. Omilion '22** has joined the medical malpractice and personal injury firm of McKeen & Associates in Detroit.

**Christian Rocca '21** has joined the Canadian law firm of Mathews Dinsdale where he will represent employers in all areas of labor and employment law.

1



2



3



- 1 Fun was on the menu at the annual WinterFest. Hundreds of alumni and their families turned up to judge a chili cookoff, take carriage tours of the campus and watch some basketball.
- 2 Alumni of all ages returned to campus for some life lessons during March's Build a Better U event.
- 3 In March, Law alumni returned to the Riverfront Campus for the annual Erin Go Law celebration.



# In Memoriam

*WE REMEMBER ALUMNI AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE PASSED ON TO ETERNAL LIFE*

## 1940s

Charlotte (Willson) Allen '48  
Sidney L. Baker '49  
Doris Baldoni '46  
James J. Cavanaugh '49  
Victor V. DeCenzo '43  
Mary (Mussio) Dowling '49  
Matthew A. Fischer '48  
Patricia (Hartnett) Harkaway '49  
Elaine (VanLoocen) Hauke '47  
Harry Kems, D.D.S. '45  
Raymond W. Kojola '49  
Rita (Halek) Macklin '46  
Laurence W. Mazzeno '44  
Rosemary R. Monark '48  
John M. Nehra '44  
William E. Oliver '49, '54  
Jane Rougeau '44  
Irene (Stepkowicz) Zelazny '47

## 1950s

Loyal V. Alaniva '54, '58  
Lawrence R. Angott '55  
Gerald Arbour '57  
Joseph P. Argenta '50  
Allen J. Baumgart '57  
Thomas J. Blaser '55  
Richard W. Boes '57  
Celeste M. Bowman '52  
Paul M. Camerer '52  
Gerald J. Chevalier '51  
Rosemarie (Wasung) Chrzanowski '57  
Rose (Zettner) Ciccone '55  
Eugene L. Cislo, D.D.S. '57  
John T. Clancy '58  
Walter C. Cliff '55  
Bert Collins '59  
Lawrence M. Conley '58  
Geraldine (Kennedy) Connell '52  
Robert I. Coulon '53  
Raymond Crowley '58  
Mary Beth (Doherty) Davis '59  
George J. Debacker '55  
Richard DeCosmo '56, '58  
Robert G. Decraene '56  
Marie (Glaab) DeLangis '57  
Cyril J. DeMeulemeester Jr. '54  
William J. Devanney '58

John D. Dole '59  
Thomas P. Duross '55  
Vito A. Faini '52  
Joan (McKiernan) Farrar '54  
Robert M. Golembiewski '58  
Joseph P. Gouhin '55  
James K. Graham '56  
Walter H. Gruber '50  
Mary (Steimle) Gurnack '52  
David L. Hake '58  
Gerald W. Hepp '58  
Catherine Mae (Vaughan) Hier '50  
Barbara (Wronski) Hinrichs '58  
Cynthia (Monroe) Hiram '50  
Paul P. Huber '57  
Hon. Thomas J. Hughes '54  
Claire (Groff) Jursek '54  
Edward G. Kane, D.D.S. '57  
Ann H. Kerwin '50  
Michael S. Komives '58, '62  
Thomas O. LaFramboise '58  
Jane (Glynn) MacDonald '58  
Walter R. Manns Jr. '58  
Lawrence W. Martin '55  
Gerard C. Mazur '59  
Francis T. McGann Jr. '52  
Edward H. McIntosh '54  
James E. Migan '59  
Germano L. Mularoni '53  
George B. Noland '50, '53  
Patrick J. O'Dowd '59  
Mary (Weishaar) Olszewski '52  
Lewis D. Owens '51  
Nicholas S. Pastor '55  
Thomas W. Payne '53  
Mary Anne (Stuhldreher) Peyser '52  
Joseph F. Pinto, D.D.S. '53  
Barbara (Swanebeck) Pougnet '53, '79  
Daher B. Rahi '53  
Joseph A. Rinke '55  
Robert A. Rooney '52  
Lawrence J. Rozman '57  
John V. Sandberg '51  
Helen (Gaudreau) Sarna '59  
Gerald O. Schmoke '50, '53  
Joseph H. Schoeb '58  
Molly Schultz '50  
Charles F. Sheffieck Jr. '57

Robert H. Shields '53  
B.A. Stewart, D.D.S. '58  
Edward K. Stockman '51  
Walter S. Tobin '59  
Nora Trybus '54  
Geraldine (Reinhardt) Tukey '57  
John J. Tomchuk '52  
Marianne (Hogan) Walsh '56  
Richard F. VanDresser '53  
Mary (Powers) Watters '57  
Raymond J. Weidenbach '63  
Concetta E. Wesolowski '50  
Joseph Wolff '51  
Barbara (Nikrant) Woods '51

## 1960s

Michael J. Abbruzzese '66  
Harold A. Allen '64, '66  
Charles H. Argy Jr. '62  
Marilynn Bacyinski '65  
Roland A. Beltz '68  
Raymond J. Berlejung '69  
Thomas M. Borowski '63  
Ronald D. Bourque '69  
Gary J. Brand '62  
Lt. Joseph N. Brown '61  
Vincent T. Brusca '63  
Edward J. Cherney '63  
Gerald Cierpilowski '63  
Henry L. Citron, D.D.S. '64  
Francis X. Colaco '61  
David C. Colyer '66  
Robert Cosgrove, D.D.S. '64  
Susan T. Currier '68  
Anthony H. Dragoni Jr. '62  
Marjorie (Shook) Eggleston '62  
Bruce F. Fleck, D.D.S. '64  
Andrew N. Fulgenzi, D.D.S. '63, '74  
Ronald J. Gdowski '60, '62  
Thomas D. Gill '62  
Thomas B. Girvin '62  
John W. Guernsey '62  
Frederic M. Haas '60  
James W. Halpin '61  
James E. Hinsch '60  
Eugene P. Jacoby '60  
John P. Jenkins '62  
John J. Karkosak '63  
Robert A. Kaspari '68



Raymond M. Kaczmariski '60  
 Albert H. Kaner, D.D.S. '60  
 Stanley C. Kazul '66  
 Joan M. Kendall '61  
 Michael F. Kiernan '66  
 William W. Kropp '62  
 Francis K. Kullman '64  
 Maureen Lang '60  
 Lawrence H. Larabell '65  
 Christina (Cicillini) Lins '61  
 Joseph R. Malek, D.D.S. '67  
 Carol R. Metevier '62  
 Paul M. Mirski '67  
 Henry G. Naour '64  
 Norah (Linehan) Oehmke '60  
 Donald P. Piche, D.D.S. '62  
 Walter F. Podolski '66  
 Spencer J. Rainey '67  
 William J. Reidy '63  
 Antonio A. Reyes '62  
 John L. Riegler Jr. '62  
 Patrick E. Ryan '63  
 Dennis E. Sal '67, '69  
 Russell W. Scholnher '63  
 Paul S. Schulte '64  
 Thomas L. Schubeck, S.J. '67  
 Robert L. Schwing '68  
 Charles F. Stys '64  
 Leonard D. Tintinalli '63  
 Arthur E. Trombley '61  
 John A. Vidosh '65  
 David T. Warren '68  
 Douglas E. Winkworth '69  
 Edward Zdankiewicz '64

## 1970s

Gerard J. Andree '72, '75  
 Edward G. Baranek '71  
 Alexis M. Beck '79  
 Elaine S. Bell '78, '87  
 Robert M. Blackwell '74  
 Mary (Grimes-Banny) Booth '74, '90  
 Kurt W. Borows Jr. '75  
 Gregory P. Butke '77  
 Charles E. Butler III '71  
 Carmine Camino '79  
 William Chapin '76  
 Marie (Hartman) Cooper '74  
 Otis Curry '75  
 Gary W. Dotson '78  
 Keith A. Dye '78  
 Mary T. Dziadziak '75  
 John A. Figlan '70  
 Alvin J. Gebeau Jr. '71

Hon. Carl F. Gerds III '74  
 James Gillig, D.D.S. '75  
 Mary L. Grix '75  
 Arline D. Hoban '70  
 Harry S. Hopkins, II '76  
 Charles C. Houston '70  
 Nicholas P. Iannotti '78  
 Anthony Incammicia '75  
 Venkateswarlu Jasti '75  
 Patricia L. Jensen '77  
 Jaclyn (Hilliard) Kirkey '75  
 Eugene Kruszewski '73  
 Gary J. Kupper '76  
 Louis P. Kusnier, D.D.S. '72  
 Violetta A. Lane '74  
 Frank J. Lucatelli '70  
 Mildred (Winfield) Mathews '76  
 Ruth McGuire '74  
 Richard L. Measelle '77  
 Most Rev. Dale J. Melczek '70  
 Gregory M. Mellon '71  
 Michael F. Michel '77  
 Frank J. Moran '73  
 Eugene J. Nasal '70  
 Pauline (Jachimowicz) Nielsen '78  
 Christopher J. Noble '74  
 Walter B. O'Brien '71  
 Sister Dorothy Olinger '79  
 Emily G. Pagen '71  
 Alexander A. Pietrzak '71  
 Peggy A. Pomeroy '78  
 George L. Popow '71  
 Gary J. Salatino, D.D.S. '76  
 Mary T. Schmitt-Smith '79  
 Robert K. Seymour '73, '74  
 Carmen G. Siara, D.D.S. '76  
 Charlotte (Makuch) Silvert '71  
 Patricia (Mann) Skalski '75  
 Susan B. Spagnuolo-Ince '77  
 Nick C. Spiroff '74  
 William J. Sullivan '79  
 Richard E. Szumanski '75  
 Michael S. Tajima, D.D.S. '70  
 Paulette (Vasilchik) Tuck '75  
 David C. Wells '74  
 Mary Kay (Bathurst) Zolton '70

## 1980s

Michael C. Azar '88  
 Martha (Mardi) Black '80  
 David C. Braun '80  
 Kim (Usher) Chapman '82  
 Marcia L. Engelhart '88  
 Diona Frenete-Holmes '86

David P. Gaffigan '82  
 Christine Kaczanowski '84  
 Jayne (Polczynski) Kowalski '85  
 Randall C. Morgan '80  
 Beatrice T. Nergaard '86  
 Meredith A. Nickol '87  
 Raphael W. Robinson '81  
 Catherine E. Spencer '86  
 Perry R. Stanley '80  
 Robert D. Thibault '80  
 Janice L. Vanwormer '82  
 Joyce A. Washington '82  
 Lawrence J. Webster '88  
 Mark K. Wolkow '80

## 1990s

Leah Y. Camper '95  
 Crystal J. Cary '96  
 Alicia D. Hardy '94  
 Joseph J. Korsak '94  
 Harold G. Lowe '96  
 Pearlle (Braxton) Moton '95  
 Christopher R. Saucier '99  
 Carol (St. Bernard) Thompson '91  
 Kenneth F. Was '91  
 Novella (Hill) Walker-Page '95, '04

## 2000s

Nina M. Backon '01  
 James D. Bell '00  
 Patricia (ook) Kennedy '02  
 Sherdina J. Lewis '08  
 Merry (Roberts) Morgan '09  
 Amber L. Petel '07

## 2010s

Alex J. Szmatala '10, '12

## 2020s

Tara N. Mial '21

## Friends, Faculty and Staff

**Layman E. Allen**, professor of law

**Robert E. Atkins**, former baseball coach

**Bonita R. Gardner**, former Detroit Mercy Law professor

**Chaka D. Hughes**, Mail Services

**Hung-Chao "Paul" Tai**, professor emeritus of political economy and international affairs

**Michelle A. Wheeler**, former Detroit Mercy Dental professor

**Correction:** The Fall 2022 issue of Spiritus incorrectly included **Sandra R. Pastuszak '66** in the In Memoriam list. We apologize for the error.



# TOMMY'S GLOW-UP

Tommy Titan has been inspiring fans since the 1970s. As with anyone who's approaching middle age, he's had a few different looks over the years. Lately, though, he's been looking a little lumpy and tired. He took some "me time" and decided a change was in order. He knew he needed his groove back. He started eating right and hit the gym. He's living his best life, and it shows in a new intensity on his sun-tanned face. Come out and see him and our student-athletes when the fall semester begins!





# UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

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## **ROCKET MORTGAGE**

**JUNE 29 - JULY 2**

To register: [udmercy.edu/pgs](https://udmercy.edu/pgs)

## **GOLF OUTING**

**AUGUST 11**

To register: [detroittitans.com/golf23](https://detroittitans.com/golf23)

## **HOMECOMING**

**SEPTEMBER 30**

To register: [udmercy.edu/homecoming](https://udmercy.edu/homecoming)







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